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# Injured revolutionaries continue sit-in and hunger strike in Sana'a

Story and photos by  
Rammah Al-Jubari

SANA'A, Feb. 3 — Run over by a military vehicle in front of Al-Shab School in Taiz during a protest in 2011, Taha Mohammed Al-Ariqi, an injured revolutionary, passed away on Friday.

Since then, a group of injured revolutionaries have stationed themselves in front of the cabinet office, calling on the government to provide them with financial assistance to get treatment abroad. All of those present provided medical records proving the necessity of their treatment outside of Yemen.

The group also demanded the implementation of a court's ruling that stipulated all injured revolutionaries would be provided with treatment.

Abdulelah Mohammed Abdulmughani, an injured revolutionary, told the Yemen Times that they are protesting against discrimination and inequality between different injured revolutionaries, with some people gaining preferential treatment and access to health care because of their ideological background or connections.

Ahmed Saif Hashid, a parliament

member, said the government is accustomed to giving pledges but fulfills few of them.

"Because of this, we organized a protest that calls for the hospitalization of gravely injured revolutionaries overseas without further delay," he continued.

Hashid stated that the protest would not end until their demands are met.

He added that although there is a committee tasked with treating the injured revolutionaries, the Finance Ministry paid YR2 billion to Wafa Foundation, an organization that belongs to the Islah Party, to provide medical aid.

"This is extortion exercised by the finance minister," he said.

He claimed that Wafa Foundation is partisan and offered care based on partisan criteria, such as political affiliation during the revolution and religious differences.

Tawakul Karaman, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, visited the protest and immediately burst into tears at the sight of the injured individuals. She proclaimed her full solidarity with them, blaming the government for not taking action to mitigate their suffering.

In return, Shawqi Al-Maimoni,



Injured revolutionaries station themselves outside the front of the cabinet office to demand treatment.

the head of the Martyrs' Families Administration Council in Wafa Foundation, said the foundation is with the youth revolution, and is not associated with any party.

He added, the foundation has not received any money from the Finance Ministry, and that the role of the foundation is to coordinate between the families of martyrs or injured individuals and the Finance

Ministry in order offer small sums of money to them in compensation for their loss. This money is a matter of consolation and is not allocated for the purpose of treatment.

Given that the injured protesters have a judicial verdict, which states the government is responsible for treating them, they should be patient and wait for the visas to be issued, stated Al-Maimoni.

## President Hadi holds up current government, criticizes previous one

Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A, Feb. 3 — In a special meeting on Saturday with government officials in Sana'a, President Abdul Rabu Mansour Hadi criticized the government formed during the rule of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, according to several published media reports.

Although he did not direct his comments directly at the former leader, Hadi also stated no one is allowed to interfere in the current government's affairs.

Many media outlets have interpreted the comments as a sign of increasing rifts between the former leader and the current leader.

Some headlines read, "Hadi opens fire at former President Saleh and the GPC."

In the session, Abdul-Aziz Jubari, a parliamentarian who resigned from the General People's Congress (GPC) in 2011, echoed the view of President Hadi, indicating that the previous government had no real authority and was controlled by "one head."

"President Hadi has conveyed in his previous speeches several messages about the importance of unifying efforts to build the country," he said.

Jubari said it's clear that there are conflicts between President Hadi and the GPC, Saleh's political party, of which he is still a member.

However, Abdul-Malek Al-Fuhaidi, editor-in-chief of the GPC-backed Al-Motamar news web site, denied any disputes between President Hadi and the GPC.

Commenting on the President's recent speech and his criticism against the previous governments, he said: "Some parties interpret the speech as a criticism against the GPC and President Saleh while the previous government was formed from ministers belonging to different political parties."

In response to those who criticize the current government's performance, Hadi said, "Every member of the government should be proud of this support and this success."

## Government continues campaign against Al-Qaeda, new confrontations in Abyan, Ra'ada reported calm

Amal Al-Yarisi

SANA'A, Jan. 3 — Military and security figures in the southern governorate of Abyan, met with Jamal Al-Aqil, the area's governor, this week in order to put forward a final government plan to "purge" Abyan of suspected Al-Qaeda affiliates, said Ahmed Shakir, a soldier in the 111th Brigade.

Shakir said the meeting follows violent confrontations on Saturday in Abyan between Al-Qaeda militants and two army brigades. In a separate incident elsewhere in the

governorate, Popular Defense Committees, who operate as local militia groups, and Al-Qaeda militants clashed. The fighting resulted in the death of 10 suspected Al-Qaeda affiliates and left eight soldiers wounded, according to Shakir.

He added, "The brigade 115 arrested two members of Al-Qaeda, and they will be handed over to Aden security."

Although the state had driven Al-Qaeda from many of their strongholds in the governorate earlier this year, officials say militants still operate in villages throughout Abyan.

The government also recently focused their efforts on Ra'ada, a city located southeast of Sana'a. After several air raids last week, officials say the situation has calmed.

Saleh Al-Qudaimi, the deputy commander of the Central Security Forces in Ra'ada, said meditating committees have been established to propel negotiations between the army and the Al Al-Dahb tribe, who are accused of harboring Al-Qaeda affiliates in the area.

Tribal mediations are being headed by Mohammed Jaroon, a leading sheikh from Ra'ada.

Al Al-Dahb has demanded the army withdraw its troops and stop air raids.

Authorities at the Defense and Interior Ministries have said they believe three Europeans, who were kidnapped December in Sana'a are in the tribes custody. The tribe has repeatedly refuted the claim.

As a result of the confrontations, locals have been displaced.

Abdulkareem Al-Nahari, a journalist in Damar, said he estimates the number of residents who have sought shelter away from the fighting, is "roughly 2,630."

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### EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

### مقابلة حصرية

Jamal Benomer to the Yemen Times

"The Security Council at any time can carry out measures against those who obstruct the transition"



Turn to pages 4, 5 for the interview

جمال بنعمر ليمن تايمز:

« في أي وقت يمكن لمجلس الأمن أن يتخذ إجراءات بشأن العقوبات »

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## Approved by president, reorganization of the Interior Ministry and police forces to be implemented

Amal Al-Yarisi

SANA'A, Feb. 3 — The committee tasked with restructuring the Interior Ministry and police force says it is in the midst of executing a restructure after a plan was approved by President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi last Thursday.

The new restructure will be put into practice in the coming two weeks, said Colonel Mohammed Marish, the head of the Restructuring Technical Committee, a branch of the Security Reorganization Committee that is overseeing the change.

"Restructuring will guarantee the provision of good police services in addition to evaluating the performance of the security services," Marish said.

President Hadi said in a statement to Saba News Agency that the Interior Ministry should put forth every effort to avoid crimes and keep abreast with modern developments in communication and information transfer.

At the end of January, Dr. Riyadh Al-Qurashi, the head of the Security Reorganization Committee, alongside a number of Jordanian experts that were brought in to provide guidance for the restructure, issued the decision to create four new administrations in the Interior Ministry that will be headed by a newly appointed general inspector.

Marish said the four new departments are the General Administration for Human Rights, the Anti-Corruption Administration,

Inspection and Censorship Administration and the General Quality Administration.

The new restructure was stipulated in the Gulf Cooperation Council Initiative, the deal that ushered in a new transitional government after former President Ali Abdullah Saleh's 33 years of power.

Brigadier Ali Naji Obaid, the head of the Military Studies Center, said this restructure is extremely important as it is designed to restore trust between the citizens and state police forces.

"The restructure will contribute to limiting the extortion and manipulation of citizens," he said.

This is the first reorganization of the Interior Ministry and police forces since Yemen's unification in 1994.

## Children's Parliament brings together government and armed groups for tough questions

Ali Mosed Al-Moshki

SANA'A, Feb. 3 — The Yemeni Children's Parliament will begin interrogating representatives from the government and armed groups like the Houthis on Monday to bring light to issues like childhood marriage, child soldiers and other childhood crimes. The event is being held in participation with the United Nations Children's Fund.

Jamal Al-Shami, the head of the Democratic School, which is the Yemeni non-profit umbrella organization for the Children's Parliament said the event will allow children to present questions to representatives from the Defense, Interior, Education, Justice, Endowment and the Information Ministries regarding their role in preventing childhood violations like conscripting children soldiers.

The militia group, known as Houthis, who human rights organizations says often use children as weapons of war, will also have representatives present.

The Children's Parliament hopes to receive pledges from violating parties to discontinue the practice of childhood conscription.

During the session, the Education Ministry is supposed to announce their efforts to educate people about the dangers of child soldiers and child brides.

The Endowment Ministry will be called on to educate people about



Children are sometimes forced to become soldiers throughout Yemen.

child marriage through the use of mosques and religious leaders.

The session will also serve as a discussion for ways the Interior Ministry can protect juveniles from

crimes. Major Mohammed Al-Mawri, a spokesperson for the Interior Ministry, said child soldiers is one of their.

## 160 reported incidents against journalists in Yemen in 2012

Samar Qaed

SANA'A, Feb. 3 — The Yemeni Journalists' Syndicate (YJS) expressed concern over an increase in state violations against journalists in Yemen in 2012. Journalists reported 160 incidents of persecution in 2012, the organization said.

In a recent report released by Reporters Without Borders, Yemen ranked 169 in the world for criteria outlining a free and independent press. The report highlighted Yemen as one of the most dangerous countries globally for reporters in the field.

"The violations are gross, and many international organizations have given ultimatums to end violence against journalists," said

Ashraf Al-Reefi, the Secretary of the Freedoms and Rights Committee in the YJC. However, both the past and the current government continue to commit atrocities against reporters.

Al-Reefi added, "For example, security guards at Sana'a University attacked two photojournalists from Yemen Shabab Channel recently."

Al-Reefi also said soldiers from Central Security Forces allegedly assaulted a journalist at Jabr Sabr in Shumaila district, Sana'a recently.

The general prosecutor ordered an investigation into the incident, but to date, no arrests have been made.

Abdurahman Barman, a human rights activist, also criticizes

freedom of expression in Yemen, but says improvements have been made. As evidence, he points to an increase in the number of independent television channels and the government's decision to unlock web sites like Marib Press and Al-Masdr Online.

"There must be an effort to increase coordination between the Information Ministry and security and military officials. There must also be education campaigns to develop cooperation between the media and security personnel," said Abdulbari Tahir, a local journalist.

Tahir says in order for progress to continue, the government must reexamine current laws.

Parliament has a bill before them that would overhaul the current governing press regulations.

## Yemeni businessmen provided with seats to voice their concerns at NDC

Ali Mosed Al-Moshki

SANA'A, Feb. 3 - Yemeni businessmen wanting private sector representation in the National Dialogue Conference (NDC) have been given the initial green light by the conference's Preparatory Committee.

"They will be included in the NDC as part of civil society organizations," said Ahmed Awadh Mubark, the secretary general of

the conference.

Mubark said, "The number of seats has not been discussed."

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Mohammed Salah, the deputy head of the Industrial and Commercial Chamber in the Capital City, said Yemeni businessmen have a clear vision about sustainable development in Yemen and can be represented as a group at the NDC.

Salah added that in addition to politics, the economy needs to be a major point of discussion at the conference as political reform will dictate economic policy.

Yahiya Saroor, a businessman, who is a part of the group that requested representation, said the private sector has been marginalized, but with their vision they hope to shape the future of Yemen in terms of job creation.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

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Oxfam - Yemen invites qualified individuals, which are expected to have significant knowledge and experience of working in the project's geographical area, with strong understanding of women's economic empowerment; demonstrable experience in administering household surveys, preferably as a field supervisor or coordinator responsible for checking the quality of work of enumerators; exceptionally high level of attention to detail in carrying out surveys and data entry; strong management skills – able to organize the work of teams of enumerators; high level of written and verbal English and Arabic communication skills, and basic information technology skills

**The role**

The selected evaluator will be responsible for supporting Oxfam in planning and implementing the Project Effectiveness Review and adapting the survey to the local context; leading a training workshop for enumerators/data entry personnel, and managing the survey work in the field; reviewing the completed questionnaires in detail, providing feedback to the enumerators, and sending them back to the respondents to make corrections if necessary (i.e. ensure that data collected and entered is of high quality) He/she will also manage the data-entry process; ensure that the data files are uploaded and transmitted to the Oxfam head office advisor on completion of the data-entry work; write a brief report on the conduct of the field work (in accordance to the outlines indicated on the TOR). The assignment is expected to be completed within max 20 days, according to the terms of reference that could be obtained upon request sent via the below e-mail.

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# Overcrowded prisons triggers dramatic increase in riots

Bassam Al-Ashmori

Since last summer, central prisons in Yemen have had violent protests break out in governorates across the nation, resulting in many injuries and deaths.

The first protest of the new year happened in the Hajja governorate's Central Prison on Jan. 20. One inmate died and 10 others were injured in a clash between prisoners and guards. Since then, Al-Beida Central Prison has had a riot of its own where inmates set clothes and furniture on fire on Jan. 23.

While each protest has been unique, there are several contributing factors that authorities say are inciting these prison riots.

As with most issues in the country, the events of 2011 had a large impact on prison populations. During the revolution, courts were unable to deliver verdicts in a timely manner and so many inmates have been forced to sit and wait while courts catch up on cases. This has led to overcrowding in prisons as new inmates continue to arrive, while the courts have been unable to process incoming cases.

"The number of inmates in central prisons is approximately 14,150. Judicial verdicts have been issued for only 4,230 of those inmates. The issues of the rest are still pending," said General Mohammed Al-Zalb, the head of the Central Prisons Authority.

Al-Zalb holds the Justice Ministry accountable for delaying the resolution of criminal cases.

"If concerned authorities do not



Overcrowding and poor conditions have led to an increase in prison protests nationwide.

take action to find a solution for the prison inmates' situation, a real catastrophe will take place in the next six months," he predicted.

Some acknowledge an "ineffective" judicial system with "limited" potential.

Aqeel Taj Al-Deen, a prosecutor in the Southwest Court in the Capital City, said, "The reason behind the delay of verdicts is that the executive authority falls short of

solid evidences and lack witnesses. This obliges the inmate to stay in prison until the prosecution provides all the necessary proof either to convict or exonerate him."

On Jan. 19, Dhamar governorate's central prison experienced a riot where one person died and 17 others were wounded. The prison has a capacity for 350 inmates, but 700 people are currently housed there.

Authorities say this overcrowding has led to harsh and unhygienic conditions.

A prison inmate in Dhamar, described typical circumstances.

"Each inmate receives only four loaves of bread for the whole day, and our hygienic conditions are deteriorating. Only those with money can get medication," he said, adding that some prisoners do not even have blankets.

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Similar prison riots in Taiz, Ibb and Aden took place last year and comparable prison conditions were reported.

Brigadier Abdulla Al-Hakeem, the general manager of training in the Prisons Authority, says in order to accommodate prisoners' needs, the Finance Ministry must raise the budget. Currently, each prisoner is allotted YR 200, about

\$1, a day, which he says is insufficient to cover their basic diet and medical requirements.

Specifically and in the same vein, Al-Zalb has called on the Finance Minister to provide prisons with YR 4 billion, almost \$20 million, that was promised as part of their budget. He says only about 10 percent of this money has been received.

# Those with double identities struggle to 'feel' Yemeni

Story and photos by Sadeq Al-Wesabi

Mohammed Al-Shatebi says his only dream is to be treated like a full citizen in the country where he has spent a majority of his 71 years of life.

Like thousands in Yemen, Al-Shatebi was born with parents from two nations separated by a sea. His father is Yemeni and his mother is

Ethiopian.

Although it is not uncommon in Yemen to have parents of mixed nationalities, Al-Shatebi and others like him say that although they are nationals by right of birth, they are sometimes treated as second class citizens, especially in government facilities.

"We face discrimination in police stations, courts, airports, places of work and other facilities. They refuse to listen to us, considering us non Yemenis," Al-Shatebi said.

"Landlords also deal with us harshly. They increase our rent and limit visitors that can visit us at home."

In Yemen, people who are born with parents from different nationalities are referred to as "Mowaladeen," a label with derogatory connotation.

"I witnessed the revolution in 1963 as a Yemeni, and I've served my country for long time, but I feel that I'm not a Yemeni. I feel I'm alien in my country," said Abdul-Wahed Al-Baradoni, who was born of a Yemeni father and an Ethiopian mother.

The group, who is often distinguished because of their mixed ethnic appearance, have tales of discrimination at police departments. They say law enforcement authorities are often dismissive of their complaints.

"It's better for me to be silent because for sure I'll be the one accused," said Hussein Al-Saedi, a 47-year-old with parents from Ethiopia and Yemen.

The "Mowaladeen" issue is a controversial one in Yemen. Just like the Akhdam, a marginalized community of ancient African heritage, some Yemenis say the groups have alienated themselves and are privy to the same opportunities as everyone else.

Moatasim Al-Maktari, a local in Sana'a described many peoples attitudes towards minority groups. "Some Yemenis wish they had an Ethiopian mother" because it can be used as a privilege with the international community, he said.

However, others are sympathetic towards minority groups' stories of suffering.

Shamsan Al-Faqeeh, another citizen in Sana'a said, "Unfortunately, discrimination against others is still rampant in Yemeni society, but I think it will disappear over time."

"No religion or law should allow for insulting and mistreating people," said Dr. Ali Al-Ahdal, a professor of Islamic culture at Sana'a University.



Thousands of ethnically mixed people are calling for full citizenship rights in Yemen.

Members of the group labeled "Mowaladeen" confirm they have excellent relations with the major-

ity of Yemenis, saying the government is the source of their grievances.

"All I want is to live in a country where freedom is guaranteed and law is enforced," Al-Baradoni said.



Mohammed Phleem (left), the Ambassador of the International Human Rights Commission, complained about mistreatment.

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Jamal Benomer to the Yemen Times

# “The Security Council at any time can carry out measures against those who obstruct the transition”

**In an exclusive interview with Yemen Times, the U.N. secretary general's special envoy to Yemen, Jamal Benomar, talks about the transitional process including the National Dialogue Conference (NDC) and the progress of the Gulf Cooperation Council's (GCC) implementation mechanism.**

Interview by Nadia Al-Sakkaf



Jamal Benomar

**Let's start with the Security Council's visit to Yemen, whose idea was it?**

This was an initiative from the Security Council (SC) who had met 15 times to evaluate the situation in Yemen. As a consequence, two resolutions were issued, the first called for a settlement and the second called for implementation of the second phase [of the GCC Initiative's implementation mechanism], in which sanctions were stipulated for anyone attempting to derail to the political process.

Per the U.N. SC's resolution 2051, I am asked to brief them on Yemen every 60 days. When the SC decides to meet every 60 days [for a certain issue] it means something is an issue of great priority. It also means that the international community is worried about the situation in Yemen. While the SC's visit is meant to support the Yemeni people, it is also a clear message that the council wants to make the region succeed. Similarly, the SC admits there are challenges that should be dealt with through cooperation between the political partners.

**When was this visit decided?**

The idea was there for a few months and in the recent weeks the dates were decided, but of course, for security reasons it was not announced in advance.

**There is speculation that although this visit is an indication of support for President Hadi, it is also because there is concern that the political process has failed, what do you think?**

The general view of the SC is that the political process is progressing. There is also the impression that there are hurdles and great challenges. The SC has admitted that there are difficulties and even admitted that there are attempts to hinder the transition and resolution 2051. This is also why the SC insists on meeting every two months to evaluate the situation in Yemen. There is a feeling among the council countries that time is short to complete all the tasks at hand. These are large tasks like the NDC, agreeing on a new constitution and conducting general elections.

**The SC has threatened more**

**than once that it will hold those who obstruct the transition responsible. However, we have not seen any action yet. What sort of consequences are we talking about?**

This question should be answered by SC members. I am the secretary general's envoy who presents reports to the council. It is the members who decide on the necessary consequences. In fact, there is consensus among the council members on this issue, and there is a resolution that stipulates this issue. The SC at any time can carry out measures against those who obstruct the transition in accordance with resolution 2051.

“

*The general view of the Security Council is that the political process is progressing.*

**However, resolution 2051 does not talk about consequences as such. It warns, but it does not say what. What types of sanctions are possible?**

The sanctions vary and have been clarified in article 41 of the United Nations Charter. However, every situation is unique and in this case, the SC is talking about sanctions against people or groups, not countries. In any case, I hope the council does not resort to sanctions. I hope that everyone works together to end obstructions to the political process. I hope that everyone cooperates to make the conference a success, agrees on a constitution and holds the elections on time.

**Your next debriefing is on February 7. What will you say in your report if the date for the NDC is not announced or political parties have not handed in their lists of representatives for the conference?**

The date for the conference has abruptly approached and has been announced several times by authorities. Although the exact date has not been announced yet, I am sure it will be very soon, as necessary preparations are almost done.

**Yes, but what if you have to debrief without a date for the conference decided?**

In that case, you will see the content of my report when I present it. Generally speaking, our position in the United Nations is that all required and logistical preparations for the conference and even a number of political issues must be sorted out so that the date for the conference can be announced.

**Before coming to Yemen you passed through Saudi Arabia and on your way out, you will pass through Qatar, what is the nature of your visit to these two countries?**

We have consultations with countries in the region, and we have continuous discussions with members of the SC in order to coordinate efforts between the U.N., the GCC and other international partners of Yemen. Yemen receives unique international and regional support at a humanitarian and economic level and also on a political level. The recent visit by the U.N. Security Council is the greatest evidence of this interest.

**Is there concern that the SC will split if the issue of sanctions are brought up?**

The issue of sanctions against those who obstruct the transition has already been discussed and approved by the council countries, hence the 2051 resolution. There is clear agreement in the council regarding Yemen.

**The \$8 billion dollars pledged to Yemen - I heard that support from Denmark has arrived?**

A number of grants to Yemen have arrived, they were not just promis-

es. There are ongoing projects and now there is discussion between donors and Yemeni authorities on how to allocate the support. Not only Denmark has provided support to Yemen, other countries have also.

**How much of the \$8 billion has actually arrived?**

Not all of the \$8 billion are grants. In fact, a large amount of it is in the form of loans with appropriate interest rates. A number of the support projects require time to process and implement. But, what is important is that there is serious work for both the Yemeni government and the donors to do in order to facilitate the procedures and speed up the donation process.

**What is the percentage of loans to grants from this pledged amount?**

I don't have the numbers with me now, but it is true that there is a percentage that is loans with simple interest rates that will eventually help the national economy recover.

**Who has the authority to disseminate the money when it comes? There is an idea that an international fund will be created in Yemen to supervise the spending, is that true?**

The Yemeni government is definitely the decision maker for this issue. It is the one who creates projects and presents them to donors. There will be contracts between the government and donors with clear responsibilities on both sides - committed to utilizing the funds in great transparency and efficiency.

There are many ideas on what implementation mechanism should be used to allocate the money. They are under discussion now. This includes initiatives like the one you mentioned.

**The Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) refuse to hand in its list of representatives to the National Dialogue Preparatory Committee in protest against the Transitional Justice law. Could this be seen as an attempt to obstruct the dialogue?**

As far as I know, there is no party that has refused to send in its names of representatives for the dialogue.

As far as I know, the lists are being completed and will be ready soon.

**Yet the Preparatory Committee has given the parties three deadlines, all of which were ignored.**

I regret the delay in the preparatory process in general. We must not forget that the Preparatory Committee itself was supposed to finish its work at the end of September. The date specified in the presidential decree for the National Dialogue Conference was November 15 of last year. So delays happened, which is regretful, but what we have learned from transitional experiences from other countries is that we cannot enter a national dialogue unless there is comprehensive preparation that involves all political parties.

Despite what is being said about the work of the Preparatory Committee, I believe it did well. We must not forget that this is the first time that all political and civil society parties were a part of one committee.

Despite the difficulties, many issues were agreed on in the committee. And yes, there is a delay, but we should see the bright side - for the first time, such a body has been created and agreements have been reached through discussions and consensus.

**The JMP conditions entering the dialogue only if the Transitional Justice law is reformed. This is despite the fact that the transitional justice is an issue to be discussed at the dialogue. How do you view this contradiction?**

Transitional justice and national reconciliation are some of the topics agreed upon by the implementation mechanism of the GCC Initiative that will be discussed at the NDC. But, even resolution 2051 stipulated that the Yemeni government should issue the transitional justice law as soon as possible. This is a demand made by people and the international community. The political process in Yemen cannot move forward without a consensus as to how to achieve national reconciliation and transitional justice.

“

*As far as I know, there is no party that has refused to send in its names of representatives for the dialogue.*

**Does this mean the conference will not start unless the Transitional Justice law is settled?**

No, I don't think that at all. Our position as the United Nations is to have this law issued as soon as possible. The Yemeni government was late in creating it. Even when it did present the law to the Parliament, there was no agreement about it. This is regretful, but like all transitions, there are always problems of this kind. It is not strange that in a

transition like Yemen there are disagreements on specific issues such as transitional justice.

But, we stress that Yemenis should continue this discussion openly and on a wide level in order to reach an agreement on a number of procedures that will achieve accountability.

**These procedures should be carried out before or during the NDC?**

Achieving transitional justice is a process that will not be achieved with one law or through a single discussion. These are complicated issues that require multiple processes. For example, the situation in the South requires quick measures by the state. This is why the president created laws relating to land ownership grievances and another relating to those who were removed from civil or military jobs.

All of these are included in transitional justice. Similarly, there was thinking related to this issue about the right to know the truth. Unfortunately, this was not agreed upon completely. Transitional justice also includes creating bodies that compensate victims from previous violations. In such transitions like this, transitional justice cannot be sorted by one law. I believe in the case of Yemen, this will be carried out in phases.

**Talking about the president and his role, shouldn't his list for the conference be out yet?**

What is known as the president's list was mentioned in the presidential decree. It was termed "other bodies," including new parties, national figures, religious leaders, tribal sheikhs and minority representatives. This list is supposed to bring some sort of balance to the NDC. Therefore, in my opinion, I think this should be the last list announced since it aims at rectifying any deficiencies. It should be a complete picture that is balanced and representative of all.

**The chairman of the Security Council's visit to Yemen, Mark Grant, said the GCC Initiative - which endorses Yemeni unity - is the reference for the transition. However, you, the secretary general's envoy do not stress unity, saying it is a matter that Yemenis will decide during the conference. How do you explain this contradiction?**

There is no contradiction at all. There are two resolutions and many statements that emphasize Yemeni unity. What I focus on is that the dialogue is open for everyone and for all opinions. This means that all opinions, points of view, visions and political projects are welcome at the dialogue. The solution is ultimately in the hands of Yemenis.

These are things that cannot be dictated from abroad. The political process is Yemeni and led by Yemenis. The dialogue is a Yemeni inclusive and the issues discussed are of concern to all Yemenis on the national level.

This means that the Southern issue should be dealt with in a fair way.

**Do you feel the South is finally coming on board?**

It is clear that there are people and groups that have announced their desire to join the dialogue. There are others who object to it. There is a third group that is tentatively ready but has conditions. I believe that generally the Hiraq will participate in the conference. It cannot be said that the Hiraq's ideas are not represented.

Similarly, no one in the committee claims to be the official repre-



sentative of Hirak, yet they defend its political projects in meetings quite strongly.

**Then it is possible to start the NDC without waiting for the entire Hirak to come on board?**

The second largest list in the conference is that of the Hirak, with 85 seats. Also, it has been agreed that at least 50 percent of the entire conference should come from the South. I am optimistic, and I have made it clear to all parties in Hirak that this issue cannot be resolved in any ways other than through dialogue. This issue cannot be resolved through violence. The only way is to contribute to a rich dialogue that includes a variety of opinions.

We have listened to many ideas on how to deal with the Southern issue. But what is important is that everyone in the North and the South admit that there is an issue and that there are grave violations and grievances. The presidential decrees were issued in order to deal with them. Even in the implementation mechanism, there is indication of a need to create a fair solution for the Southern issue through dialogue. There is no other way to solve this issue.

**Many factions in the South believe in dialogue, but they want another framework to do this, one that recognizes them as a separate country.**

In negotiations around the world, participants come with very conflicting opinions. This is natural. I have confirmed more than once in my discussions with the people in the Hirak that they should come to the dialogue. It is the only rightful framework for them to talk about their issue.

**Does this mean that if they don't come to the NDC, they will not be given any other**

**framework to explain their case?**

What I want to emphasize is that there is an existing framework – the NDC, which includes a fixed mechanism to deal with the Southern issue. A large percentage of participants in this group are from the South and many of them will be from the Hirak. All opinions will be discussed. There are conflicting ideas in the North and South about resolving the issue, but historically, we have never seen dialogue about those ideas. This conference will present the opportunity for the very first time.

**Is it accurate to say that this is the best opportunity for the Southerners to put down their case and participate in shaping the future of the country?**

What I can say is that this is an opportunity, and there is a framework. If the relevant political parties are present in this group, it will be the first official discussion about this issue, aimed at creating a fair solution agreeable for all sides.

**And if they were not present?**

I am optimistic that everyone will be there for the conference. Even though some parties say they will not be present, I know that their ideas about how to solve issues will be there.

**So it is more important that opinions are represented at the conference and not necessarily the stakeholders themselves?**

I am sure their opinions and visions will be there. I hope all stakeholders will be as well.

**Houthis are being pressured by some parties in Yemen to surrender their arms. But, the Houthis say if they do so, they will be wiped out because there is not a fair state. What**

**is the U.N.'s position on this issue?**

Our position is very clear. We know that because of a weak state, the peripheries are now controlled by armed groups because of an abundance of weapons in Yemen. But, with transitional success and as the state regains power through a new governing system and a new constitution, an environment will be created that limits arms carrying in Yemen.



*These are things that cannot be dictated from abroad. The political process is Yemeni and led by Yemenis.*

**So they are not asked to surrender their weapons overnight, but rather this is a process that comes with the building of the new state?**

All political parties should be involved in the political process, should abandon violent tactics and stop creating armed militias. This is not only the case for the Houthis,

but there are many other groups in Yemen as well. Sometimes there are social figures that not only possess weapons but heavy machinery. We have seen how destructive tribal armed conflicts are. I have never seen anything like this in the region. Like I said, the idea is to hasten the building of the new state and restructure the army and security forces bases on fair, national institutions.

**So in a nutshell, those who demand Houthis and other armed militia must relinquish their arms have to wait until there is a real state that can guarantee rights for all and national security?**

This is your personal conclusion. What I am saying is that the spread of arms will not be ended by a single law or happen in one or two months. Historically, Yemen was always been an armed society, and there have always been armed tribes operating outside the law. Transitioning to a civil state with a rule of law and equal citizenship will limit this.

**What worries you when you think about Yemen?**

First of all, I want to emphasize that I am impressed by Yemeni wisdom and its people's ability to survive, despite a difficult legacy. Yemenis have been able to leave their problems behind and come to a political agreement that includes a peaceful transfer of power and a dialogue.

The agreement to transfer power happened in November of 2011. When it comes to implementation, there are a number of difficulties, but there is progress. Everyone wants change. Slowly, we are seeing a new Yemen materialize, and we will see it continue to happen soon.

**If you pick out three major priorities you have for Yemen,**

**what would they be?**

First, ensuring the NDC is a success. This is the backbone of the transitional process in Yemen. This is followed by the creation of a constitution because this is a social contract between Yemenis. We must not underestimate this as the first opportunity for Yemenis to contribute to a new vision for Yemen.

The third is creating general elections based on the government system the new constitution proposes.

**Is there an option to delay the elections that are slated for February 2014?**

The power transfer agreement created a fixed transition that would conclude with elections in 2014. This is what we agreed on. The SC has stressed in its resolutions and statements the need to respect this time frame and have elections take place accordingly.

**Is there a backup plan in case the NDC fails or the new constitution is not satisfactory?**

The uniqueness of this experience is that it came with a specific time frame. As long as everyone agrees and cooperates, it should be achieved. It is too early to talk about backup plans. The conference should be a success. The new constitution that will be based on the outcomes of the discussions in the dialogue will be satisfactory because it will be created by Yemenis participating in the dialogue.

**Many Yemenis are concerned that they will not be able to participate in the dialogue because they will not be in the conference room, how can we engage them?**

We hope that participation is national and beyond the 565 people in the conference room. This is why there are community outreach and media communication projects

that will ensure participation and interaction with the general public. It will provide feedback for the conference's discussions.

There will be mechanisms created for this issue.

**What is the message you want to convey to Yemenis through the Yemen Times?**

My primary message to Yemenis is that despite difficulties and challenges, I am confident that Yemen has come a long way. Yemen was on the verge of a civil war just months ago. Now there is eagerness and even competition to participate in the dialogue and the creation of a new Yemen.

I hope that there is cooperation between all sides. Yemen is a versatile country. It is natural that there are various opinions on national issues. But, what is important is that they continue to discuss and that there are mechanisms for conflict resolutions and consensus building.

Eventually the power struggle will be done in a democratic fashion, through general elections. But, before going there, we need to create a safe and stable environment and to agree on the new rules of the game. This will be done through the NDC, the new constitution and a new electoral system.

There are difficulties. We must not underestimate the challenges, but if there is a will, there is a way.

Yemenis are tired of narrow interests and political conflicts. They want change, and this was very clear when they turned out for the presidential election of President Hadi.

Yemenis want a new page and to forget the past. They do not want to keep staring at future while imprisoned in the past.

Despite difficulties, I am sure there is the needed will. Yemen will come out of this ordeal and enjoy a bright future.

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الوطني. يجب أن يكون هذا مناسبة لنقاش وحوار مجتمعي واسع يشارك فيه الجميع وليس فقط الموجودين في المؤتمر.

**إذاً على مستوى الوطن يمكن لأي يمني أن يشارك في الحوار وليس بالضرورة أن يكون في القاعة وإنما هناك وسائل مختلفة ستمكّن من أن يكون مساهم في صناعة اليمن الجديد؟**

أكيد. هناك تفكير وهناك إعداد على مستوى رئاسة وسكرتارية المؤتمر لخلق آليات خاصة من أجل ضمان هذه المشاركة الواسعة لجميع اليمنيين وبالخصوص اليمنيين غير الموجودين في القاعة.

**ما هي الرسالة التي تود توجيهها عبر يمن تايمز لليمنيين بمختلف فئاتهم؟**

رسالتي الأساسية أنه بالرغم من الصعوبات وجميع العراقيل ورغم ضخامة المهام الموجودة والمطروحة الآن في هذه المرحلة. أنا رأيي هو أن اليمن قطع شوطاً كبيراً. اليمن كان على حافة حرب أهلية منذ شهر فقط ويجب أن لا ننسى هذا. لكن الآن المنافسة على المشاركة في الحوار والحديث الآن هو عن الحوار الوطني وصنع المستقبل واليمن الجديد.

أنا أتمنى أن يكون هناك تعاون ما بين جميع الأطراف. اليمن طبيعته مجتمع متنوع والتنوع هو طبيعة الحياة وطبيعي أيضاً أن تكون هناك آراء مختلفة على قضايا وطنية مهمة. لكن الأساس هو أن يستمر الحوار وأن يكون هناك إطار للحوار الوطني وآليات من أجل تذليل هذه التضاربات في الدستورية تبدأ بعقد مؤتمر الحوار الوطني. هذا هو ما يعطى الإمكانية للاتفاق على القضايا الدستورية الأساسية بشكل مبدئي في المؤتمر حتى تبدأ الصياغة الفنية في اللجنة التي تم تهيئتها خصيصاً لصياغة الدستور.

**هناك قلق من اليمنيين ان المشاركين في المؤتمر لن يمثلوا جميع اليمن، سواء من أطراف سياسية أو شعب. فكيف سيشارك مختلف اليمنيين في مؤتمر الحوار الوطني؟**

نحن نتمنى أن تكون المشاركة ليس فقط عن طريق هذه النخبة الـ ٥٦٥ الذين سيجمعون في المؤتمر. لهذا هناك تفكير وتعاون ما بين عدد من الأطراف من أجل دعم عملية هدفها هو إشراك الجمهور بشكل عام في هذا النقاش الواسع حتى يكون نقاش مجتمعي حول مستقبل اليمن. معناه المشاركين في المؤتمر الذين ينتمون إلى مجموعات ومكونات ستكون هناك حملة إعلامية وحملات هدفها إشراك الجمهور بشكل واسع من أجل تتبع أعمال المؤتمر لتقديم اقتراحات وكذلك التأثير على الآراء والمشاركين في مؤتمر الحوار

العملية. لأول مرة في التاريخ ستكون هناك فرصة لجميع اليمنيين واليمنيات أن يساهموا في صنع مستقبل اليمن عبر الاتفاق على دستور جديد في منظمة حكم جديد ورؤية مستقبلية لليمن.

هذه مهمة كبيرة. هذه مهمة صعبة لكنها ستكون حاسمة، وعلى أساسها سيتم الاتفاق على النظام الانتخابي والدخول في انتخابات عامة. وبالتالي كما قلت، الثلاث مهام هي: المهمة الأولى هي عقد مؤتمر الحوار الوطني وإنجاح الحوار، ثانياً الاتفاق على صياغة دستور جديد وهي عملية ليست تقنية لأن الأساس هو الاتفاق السياسي ما بين جميع الأطراف السياسية وبمشاركة الجمهور اليمني الواسع من أجل الاتفاق على دستور جديد. دستور هو بمثابة عقد اجتماعي ما بين جميع اليمنيين. هذه هي المهمة الصعبة والمهمة الثانية.

ثالثاً بناء على هذا الدستور الدخول في انتخابات جديدة لا ندرى ستكون انتخابات برلمانية فقط إذا كان النظام السياسي نظام برلماني أو برلماني ورئاسي. إذا كان النظام الانتخابي رئاسي لهذا أقول انتخابات عامة في فبراير ٢٠١٤.

**هل هناك احتمالية تأجيل هذه الانتخابات؟**

لا يوجد مجال للمبادرة الخليجية، أنه لا يوجد مجال قبولاً من قبل الشعب اليمني أن يعود مرة أخرى إلى لجنة الصياغة لتعديلها؟ أنا أظن العملية الدستورية كما تم النص عليها في الاتفاق وفي الآلية التنفيذية واضحة وأن العملية الدستورية تبدأ بعقد مؤتمر الحوار الوطني. وعدد من القضايا التي ستناقش في مجموعات العمل هي قضايا دستورية مثل شكل الدولة، النظام السياسي، قضية صعدة، القضية الجنوبية. كذلك هناك فريق عمل متخصص بقضية الدستور. هذا هو ما يعطى الإمكانية للاتفاق على القضايا الدستورية الأساسية بشكل مبدئي في المؤتمر حتى تبدأ الصياغة الفنية في اللجنة التي تم تهيئتها خصيصاً لصياغة الدستور.

هناك قلق من اليمنيين ان المشاركين في المؤتمر لن يمثلوا جميع اليمن، سواء من أطراف سياسية أو شعب. فكيف سيشارك مختلف اليمنيين في مؤتمر الحوار الوطني؟ نحن نتمنى أن تكون المشاركة ليس فقط عن طريق هذه النخبة الـ ٥٦٥ الذين سيجمعون في المؤتمر. لهذا هناك تفكير وتعاون ما بين عدد من الأطراف من أجل دعم عملية هدفها هو إشراك الجمهور بشكل عام في هذا النقاش الواسع حتى يكون نقاش مجتمعي حول مستقبل اليمن. معناه المشاركين في المؤتمر الذين ينتمون إلى مجموعات ومكونات ستكون هناك حملة إعلامية وحملات هدفها إشراك الجمهور بشكل واسع من أجل تتبع أعمال المؤتمر لتقديم اقتراحات وكذلك التأثير على الآراء والمشاركين في مؤتمر الحوار

سيساعد من أجل الحد من ظاهرة انتشار السلاح والمجموعات المسلحة.

**إذاً باختصار على من يطلب من الحوثيين وغيرهم من الجماعات المسلحة أن يتركوا السلاح قبل الحوار. أن ينتظر حتى تكون هناك دولة مدنية حديثة، تضمن للجميع حقوقهم ويكون هناك إعادة هيكلة للجيش والأمن بشكل عام؟**

هذا استنتاج لما قلت. أنا ما أكدت عليه أن ظاهرة انتشار الأسلحة لن تنتهي بقرار أو قانون واحد أو في شهر أو شهرين. تاريخياً اليمن كان دائماً مجتمع يحمل السلاح والقابض مسلحة وهناك مجموعات مسلحة لا علاقة لها بالسلطة المركزية وبالجمهورية وأحياناً تتصارع مع الدولة وأحياناً صراعات تكون ما بينها وبين. لكن الانتقال إلى دولة مدنية والانتقال إلى دولة تسود فيها سلطة القانون، ودولة المواطنة والتساوي بين جميع الأطراف والفئات في الحقوق، هذا ما سيخلق الظروف المناسبة من أجل العمل الجاد من أجل الحد من ظاهرة انتشار الأسلحة والمجموعات المسلحة بشكل عام.

**ما الذي يقلقك بالنسبة لليمن؟**

أولاً أريد أن أؤكد أنني أتفق على حكمة اليمنيين وأنه رغم تعقد الوضع في اليمن ورغم الإشكالات الموجودة وراث الماضي والحساسيات والتضارب في المصالح استطاع اليمنيون وأطراف سياسية أن يرسوا نموذج لحل الخلافات وهو نموذج الانتقال السلمي للسلطة. نموذج الحوار البناء من أجل التقدم إلى الأمام وهذا ما حصل.

**لحد علمي ليست هناك إلى الآن جهة ترفض تقديم اللوائح (بأسماء ممثليها إلى مؤتمر الحوار الوطني). حسب معلوماتي بدأت تكتمل لوائح الأحزاب السياسية وسيتم استيفائها في وقت قريب**

أوافق نقل السلطة تم في نوفمبر ٢٠١١. في التطبيق هناك صعوبات كبيرة وكل يوم هناك عدد من العقبات، لكن مع ذلك العملية السياسية والتغيير والتقدم واليمن يتغير والجميع يريد التغيير والثقافة الاستثنائية بالسلطة، ثقافة الفساد، ثقافة عدم احترام الرأي الآخر. وشيئاً فشيئاً بدأت نرى أن اليمن الجديد الذي سنصل إليه من خلال جميع الحوارات الأخيرة التي تمت بين جميع الأطراف بشكل بناء من أجل التحضير لمؤتمر الحوار الوطني.

**ما هي الثلاث الصعوبات أو المهام التي يجب أن يتم تنفيذها الآن في رأيك؟**

أولاً إنجاز مؤتمر الحوار الوطني. هذا هو العمود الفقري للعملية الانتقالية في اليمن لأن مؤتمر الحوار الوطني هو الذي سيحدد المبادئ والأسس التي سيتم على أساسها صياغة الدستور الجديد. ودستور جديد معناه عقد اجتماعي جديد تاريخي ما بين اليمنيين. يجب أن لا تقلل من أهمية هذه

كل هذا سيوفر ظروف مساعدة من أجل الحد من ظاهرة انتشار السلاح في اليمن.

**إذاً ليس المطلوب منهم بين ليلة وضحاها أن يتركوا السلاح إنما هي عملية تدريجية تأتي مع بناء الدولة الحديثة؟**

جميع الأطراف السياسية طبعاً يجب أن تدخل العملية السياسية وتتخلى عن العنف وعن تشكيل ميليشيات والمجموعات المسلحة. هذا لا ينطبق فقط على الحوثيين بل ينطبق على الجميع في الحقيقة كما قلت اليمنيين كهم مسلحين، وأحياناً شخصيات ليس لها فقط أسلحة خفيفة بل ثقيلة. وهناك قبائل لاحظنا من خلال الاشتباكات السابقة وهذه ظاهرة الحقيقة فريدة من نوعها في المنطقة وليس لي علم ببلد يتوفر فيه السلاح بهذا الشكل (مثل اليمن). وكما قلت المطروح هو الإسراع بإعادة بناء الدولة، إنجاز عملية نقل السلطة، استعادة الدولة لهيبتها، إعادة إصلاح الأجهزة العسكرية والأمنية حتى تتشكل على أساس وطني وتكون مؤسسة وطنية تخضع للسلطة المدنية وتعمل في إطار سيادة القانون، الاتفاق على عقد اجتماعي جديد يعطي صلاحيات مهمة على المستوى المحيط (اللامركزي). كل هذه مسائل ستخلق مناخ جديد

**إذاً الأهم أن تكون الرؤى والمطالب موجودة، حتى وإن لم يكن الأشخاص ممثلين بجسدهم ولكن مطالبهم أو مشاربهم السياسية تكون موجودة في الحوار وهناك من يمثلهم؟**

الرؤى أنا متأكد أنها ستكون موجودة، لكن أتمنى من جميع الفعاليات والقيادات المعروفة، أتمنى أن تكون موجودة.

يتم مطالبته الحوثيين بترك السلاح خاصة من قبل بعض الفعاليات السياسية الموجودة في اليمن، ولكن الحوثيون يزعمون أنهم إذا تركوا السلاح سوف يتم تصفيتهم لأنهم إلى الآن لا يتقنون في الدولة، ما رأي الأمم المتحدة بشأن هذا الموضوع؟

موقفنا واضح جداً، هو أن ضعف وغياب الدولة وكون أن الصراع على السلطة تركز في المركز في المحيط من الشمال إلى الجنوب مع غياب الدولة ظهرت مجموعات مسلحة والمجتمع اليمني مع الأسف تاريخياً مسلح والسلاح موجود من الشمال إلى الجنوب. لكن مع نجاح العملية الانتقالية واستعادة الدولة لهيبتها وكذلك مع الاتفاق على منظومة حكم جديد ودستور جديد،

**هل هو في يد اليمنيين. هذه أمور لا يمكن أن تحل بفتاوى من الخارج**

لكن تاريخياً لم نرى أي إطار أو حوار ما بين هذه الآراء. هذا هو ما سيوفره مؤتمر الحوار الوطني لأول مرة.

**إذاً هل من الدقيق أن نقول أن مؤتمر الحوار هو الفرصة الرئيسية للجنوبيين من أجل أن يطرحوا قضيتهم ويكونوا شريكاً في تشكيل اليمن الجديد؟**

هذه فرصة من أجل حل القضية الجنوبية فعلاً وأنا أظن إذا كانت هناك إرادة سياسية من قبل الجميع يمكن الخروج بخلاصات إيجابية.

**هل نقول إنه ربما لن تكون هناك فرص مواتية مشابهة أخرى؟**

ما أؤكد عليه أن هناك فرصة وهناك إطار وهو فريق العمل الخاص بالقضية الجنوبية إذا حضرت جميع المشاريع المطروحة حول القضية الجنوبية سيكون لأول مرة هناك حوار رسمي جدي هدفه إيجاد حل عادل لتلقي عليه جميع الأطراف.

**وإذا لم تحضر؟**

أنا متفائل على أن الرؤى كلها ستكون موجودة في المؤتمر رغم إعلان بعض الأطراف عن عدم رغبتهم، فإن الأفكار الرئيسية الموجودة حول كيفية حل القضية الجنوبية، أنا متفائل أنها ستكون موجودة في المؤتمر.

**إذاً الأهم أن تكون الرؤى والمطالب موجودة، حتى وإن لم يكن الأشخاص ممثلين بجسدهم ولكن مطالبهم أو مشاربهم السياسية تكون موجودة في الحوار وهناك من يمثلهم؟**

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منتدى اليمن ٢١  
Yemen 21 Forum

كلنا شركاء في صناعة الوطن الجديد



شوف ايش مكتوب في الألية التنفيذية للمبادرة الخليجية في موضوع مؤتمر الحوار الوطني: يبحث المؤتمر في اتخاذ الوسائل القانونية وغيرها من الوسائل التي من شأنها تعزيز حماية الفئات الضعيفة وحقوقها بما في ذلك الأطفال والنهوض بالمرأة.

قلت المرأة ايش قصدها؟

يعني القوانين الجديدة التي يطورها لازم تحسن وضع المرأة. أصلاً أنا سمعت أنه تم الاتفاق أن على الأقل ٣٠٪ من المشاركين في مؤتمر الحوار يكونوا نساء.

لكي تعرفوا أكثر عن المبادرة الخليجية وآلياتها التنفيذية ومؤتمر الحوار الوطني شاركوا في الندوة المجتمعية في مدينتكم.

أيضاً لا تنسوا اقتناء النسخة الشعبية من المبادرة الخليجية لكي تعرفوا أكثر وتشارك بمسئولية أكبر.

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## Employment Opportunities

KPMG is a world leading global network of professional firms providing Audit, Tax, and Advisory Services. We operate in 156 countries and have more than 152,000 professionals working in member firms around the world.

### Senior Finance Professional:

#### Academic Qualification

- A University Degree in business administration with concentration in finance or accounting. A professional qualification in accounting is desirable.
- Good command of MS applications (Word, Excel and PowerPoint) in Arabic and English.

#### Professional Experience

3 years of post-qualification experience covering the following areas:

- Financial accounting, with the ability to review and analyze accounting transactions; reviewing budgets;
- Financial management systems, with the ability to review and assess internal controls and financial processes and procedures and provide recommendations for improvement; and
- Reviewing financial statements (including income and expenditure statements, balance sheets and cash reconciliation statements); and reviewing audit reports.

### IT Technical Support:

#### Academic Qualification

- Bachelors Degree in Computer Science.

#### Professional Experience

3 years of post-qualification experience covering the following areas:

- At least three years work experience in Microsoft Networks.
- Excellent experience in troubleshooting MS Windows 7, MS Office Applications and network printing.
- Strong problem solving and analytical skills.
- Basic knowledge about MS networking (Active Directory/DHCP/DNS), MS SharePoint, MS Exchange, and SCCM.
- Professional certifications (MCSA etc...) are a plus.

### Language and Computer Competencies for Both Posts Above

Must be fluent in English with strong professional communication and writing skills. The applicant should also have excellent skills in Microsoft office.

Qualified candidates for both posts above should submit their applications, including a letter of interest and complete Curriculum Vitae via e-mail to: [recruitment@kpmg.com.ye](mailto:recruitment@kpmg.com.ye) no later than February 11, 2013.

Interested candidates with good command in Arabic and English languages should send their full detailed CV along with all supporting documents within the period mentioned above.

### Required documentation includes:

- Two recent color passport photographs
- Copy of ID or passport
- Copy of supporting documents for educational and experience background
- List of references that can be contacted, if any

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جمال بنعمر ليمن تايمز:

# « في أي وقت يمكن لمجلس الأمن أن يتخذ إجراءات بشأن العقوبات »



جمال بنعمر

في مقابلة حصرية  
ليمن تايمز يشرح  
الدكتور جمال بنعمر  
مبعوث الأمين العام  
للأمم المتحدة إلى اليمن  
آخر مستجدات المرحلة  
الانتقالية بما فيها  
الحوار الوطني، مشدداً  
على أهمية تحالف  
جميع القوى من أجل  
تنفيذ وإنجاح الآلية  
التنفيذية للمبادرة  
الخليجية.

لقاء ناديّة السقاف

لنبدأ بزيارة مجلس الأمن مؤخرًا إلى اليمن، فكرة من كانت؟

هذه عبارة من مجلس الأمن. مجلس الأمن اجتمع ١٥ مرة لمراقبة الوضع في اليمن وقد أصدر قرارين بشأن اليمن، الأول يدعو إلى التسوية والقرار الثاني يدعو إلى تنفيذ مهام المرحلة الثانية (من الآلية التنفيذية للمبادرة الخليجية) وأشار إلى موضوع العقوبات ضد كل من يريد تقويض العملية السياسية.

مجلس الأمن بموجب القرار الثاني ٢٠٥١ طلب مني تقديم تقرير له كل ٦٠ يوم. ومجلس الأمن إذا اجتمع كل ٦٠ يوم (من أجل قضية معينة) معناه أن هذه الحالة تحظى بأولوية. ومعنى هذا أن هناك قلق في المجتمع الدولي على الوضع في اليمن ورسالة مجلس الأمن كانت رسالة تضامن مع الشعب اليمني وهي رسالة واضحة مفادها أن مجلس الأمن يريد إنتاج هذه التجربة الفريدة من نوعها في المنطقة. ومجلس الأمن كذلك يعترف أن هناك صعوبات يجب تذليلها إذا ما كان هناك تعاون بين أطراف العملية السياسية.

ومتى قررتم القيام بالزيارة؟

منذ عدة شهور كانت الفكرة مطروحة وفي الأسابيع الأخيرة تم الاتفاق على الزيارة ولكن طبعاً لأسباب أمنية لم يعلن عنها.

هناك طرح بأن مجلس الأمن، صحيح لدعم الرئيس هادي، ولكن لأنه قلق من العملية الانتقالية السياسية، فشلت بسبب ماطلة بعض الأطراف إعطاء قوائم ممثليهم في مؤتمر الحوار الوطني.

الانطباع العام في مجلس الأمن هو أن العملية السياسية (في اليمن) تقدمت وبشكل كبير. كذلك الانطباع العام أن هناك عراقيل وصعوبات كبيرة. ومجلس الأمن اعترف أن هناك صعوبات واعترف كذلك أن هناك عرقلة ولهذا أصدر القرار ٢٠٥١. ولهذا يصير مجلس الأمن على أن يجتمع مرة كل شهرين لدراسة الوضع في اليمن. لكن الانطباع العام عند الدول أعضاء مجلس الأمن أن الوقت أصبح ضيقاً الآن لإنهاء كل المهام التي ما زالت مطروحة وهي مهام كبيرة مثل عقد مؤتمر الحوار الوطني، الاتفاق على دستور جديد وتنظيم انتخابات جديدة.

هدد مجلس الأمن أكثر من مرة وخاصة في الزيارة الأخيرة معرقلتي العملية الانتقالية، ولكن إلى الآن نسلم جعجعة ولا نرى طحيناً. ماذا سيفعل مجلس الأمن بشأن المعرقلين ومتى سيفعل في حال إثبات العرقلة؟

هذا السؤال يجب أن يطرح لأعضاء مجلس الأمن. أنا ممثل اليمن العام للأمم المتحدة، أقدم تقارير لمجلس الأمن لكن أعضائه هم الذين سيتخذون الإجراءات الضرورية في هذا الموضوع وهذا شيء أكدوا عليه. هناك إجماع واضح في مجلس الأمن بل وكذلك هناك قرار يشير إلى العقوبات وفي أي وقت يمكن لمجلس الأمن أن يتخذ إجراءات في إطار القرار ٢٠٥١.

لكن القرار ٢٠٥١ لم ينص على التبعات، بمعنى أنه حذر من العرقلة ولم يحدد جزاء أو نتيجة حدوث العرقلة، ما هي نوعية العقوبات؟

العقوبات متنوعة وتم توضيحها في البند ٤١ من ميثاق الأمم المتحدة. لكن لكل حالة خصوصيتها. هنا مجلس الأمن لا يتحدث عن عقوبات ضد دول، ولكنه يتحدث عن عقوبات ضد أشخاص أو مجموعات. على أي حال أنا أتمنى أن لا يلجأ مجلس الأمن إلى عقوبات. أتمنى أن تتعاون الأطراف وتنتهي محاولات العرقلة ومحاولات تقويض العملية السياسية. أتمنى أن يتعاون الجميع من أجل إنتاج مؤتمر الحوار الوطني والاتفاق على الدستور وعقد الانتخابات العامة في موعدها.

مؤدك القادم لتقديم تقريرك إلى مجلس الأمن في ٧ فبراير، ما الذي ستقدمه في تقريرك في حال لم يتم الإعلان عن موعد مؤتمر الحوار الوطني قبل ذلك التاريخ أو لم تقدم الأحزاب قوائم أعضائها للمشاركة في المؤتمر؟

اقرب موعد مؤتمر الحوار الوطني بدون شك وهذا ما تم الإعلان عليه مرات عديدة من طرف السلطات لكن الموعد المحدد لم يتم الإعلان عنه وأنا متأكد أن المؤتمر سيبدأ في وقت قريب وأن الترتيبات الضرورية للتخصير بدأت تنتهي.

ولكن إذا جاء ٧ فبراير ولم يتم الإعلان عن موعد المؤتمر أو ما طالت الأحزاب في تقديم أسمائها؟

ستكونون على علم بعضون الإحاطة عندما أقدمها لكن بشكل عام نحن موقنون كأمم متحدة انه يجب الإسراع بإنهاء الترتيبات الضرورية الإدارية واللوجستية وحتى عدد من القضايا السياسية التي يجب الحسم فيها حتى يتم الإعلان عن الموعد الواضح بالنسبة للحوار الوطني.

قبل أن تأتي إلى اليمن مررت بالسعودية، وبعد انتهاء زيارتك لنا مقرر ان تمر بقطر. هل هناك تم وسيتم مناقشة العملية الانتقالية أو المعرقلين لها؟

عندنا اتصالات ومشاورات مع دول الجوار وكذلك مشاورات مستمرة مع أعضاء مجلس الأمن الهدف منها هو تنسيق الجهود بين الأمم المتحدة ومجلس التعاون الخليجي وكذلك التعاون والتنسيق مع الأطراف الدولية الأخرى وأصدقاء اليمن كعلم. الملاحظ الآن بالنسبة لليمن أنه يحظى بدعم إقليمي ودولي خارق للعادة. في المجال الاقتصادي والإنساني هناك تحرك وحتى في المجال السياسي والآن زيارة مجلس الأمن أكبر دليل على هذا الاهتمام.

هناك قلق أن يختلف مجلس الأمن إذا طرحت مسألة العقوبات؟ مسألة العقوبات طرحت ومجلس الأمن اتفق على فرض عقوبات على كل من يعرقل عملية

نقل السلطة والعملية السياسية. هذا الاتفاق هو ما ترجم في قرار ٢٠٥١. هناك إجماع واضح في مجلس الأمن.

الثمانية مليار التي تم تخصيصها لمساعدة اليمن متى ستصل؟ الذي سمعته هو أن المساعدات من الدنمارك هي الوحيدة التي وصلت حتى الآن. ومن الذي سيكون بيده دفتر الشيكات كما يقال؟

عدد من المنع من دول مختلفة وصلت وليست فقط وعود. هناك مشاريع أخرى والآن يجري نقاش ما بين أطراف دولية والجهات الحكومية المعنية. ليس صحيح أن الدنمارك فقط هي التي قدمت منح. هناك دول أخرى ومشاريع تحت التنفيذ.

كم من الثمانية مليار وصلت إلى الحكومة اليمنية؟

الثمانية مليار التي وعدت بها اليمن ليست كلها منح. جزء كبير منها هي قروض بفوائد ملائمة. وعدد من المشاريع تتطلب وقت للإعداد والتنفيذ. لكن المهم هو أن هناك عمل جاد في الحكومة اليمنية ومن جانب الدول المانحة من أجل تذليل عدد من الصعوبات الإدارية والإجرائية حتى لا تتأخر هذه المشاريع.

ما هي نسبة القروض من المبلغ الإجمالي المخصص لمساعدة اليمن؟

ليس لدي رقم محدد الآن، لكن فعلاً جزء من المبلغ المحدد ليس منح بل هي قروض كما قلت بفوائد بسيطة لكن تساعد كذلك على إنعاش الاقتصاد الوطني.

ومن الذي سيكون بيده سلطة التصرف بهذه المبالغ؟ لأن هناك طرح أن يتم إنشاء صندوق دولي يشرف على

في مؤتمر الحوار الوطني. لكن حتى في قرارات مجلس الأمن ٢٠٥١ طلب مجلس الأمن من الحكومة إصدار قانون العدالة الانتقالية لتحقيق المصالحة الوطنية. هذا مطلب شعبي ومطلب دولي كذلك، ولا يمكن للعملية السياسية في اليمن أن تتقدم بدون أن يكون هناك إجماع حول منظور ورؤية متكاملة لكيفية تحقيق المصالحة الوطنية والعدالة الانتقالية.

إذاً معنى كلامك أنه لن يبدأ مؤتمر الحوار حتى يتم البت في مسألة قانون العدالة الانتقالية؟

لا أبداً أنا لا أقول هذا. كل ما أقوله انه كان موقفنا كأمم متحدة أن يصدر هذا القانون في أقرب وقت. تأخرت الحكومة في تقديم مشروع القانون ولكن حتى عندما تم تقديم المشروع الجديد للبرلمان على ما يبدو لي الآن انه لا يوجد إجماع على النص. أتأسف على هذا لكن في جميع الحالات الانتقالية التي نعرفها، كانت هناك دائماً إشكالات من هذا النوع وليس غريب انه في مرحلة انتقالية مثل اليمن أن يكون هناك خلاف على قضايا محددة مثل العدالة الانتقالية. لكن نحن نؤكد لجميع اليمنيين أن يستمر هذا النقاش مفتوح وبشكل واسع من أجل الاتفاق على سلسلة من الإجراءات تحقق المساءلة، مطلب أو حقوق الضحايا، حقوقهم في معرفة الحقيقة، ضمانات لهم وللشهداء على أن لا تتكرر خروقات الماضي من خلال إصلاحات جذرية على المستوى المؤسسي والقانوني.

الذي تفضلت به يجب أن يتم قبل الدخول لمؤتمر الحوار أو أثناءه؟

تحقيق العدالة الانتقالية سيكون مسيرة لن تتحقق بقانون واحد أو نقاش واحد. هذه أمور معقدة تتطلب إجراءات كثيرة. مثلاً بالنسبة للوضع في الجنوب تتطلب هذا إجراءات سريعة من طرف الدولة ولهذا بادر الرئيس بإصدار قوانين تتعلق بقضية الأراضي والملكيات، قضية الموقوفين والمبعدين من الخدمة المدنية أو من الجيش. هذه كلها تدخل في إطار قضايا العدالة الانتقالية. كذلك في هذا السياق تم التفكير ولكن مع الأسف لم يتم الاتفاق بشكل نهائي على قانون يركز على معرفة الحقيقة أولاً وكذلك تأسيس هيئات تنصف ضحايا الأحداث والخروقات في السنوات السابقة. في مراحل انتقالية من هذا النوع العدالة الانتقالية لا تحسم بقانون واحد أو في دفعة واحدة على ما أتخيل بالنسبة لليمن سيتم هذا عبر مراحل.

عطفا على الرئيس ودوره في الموضوع، قائمته الرئيس لم تظهر رغم أنه وعد بالإعلان عنها في ٢٣ من شهر يناير؟

المفروض بأن اللائحة التي سميت في القرار الرئيسي «معالجات أخرى» معناه أحزاب ناشئة، شخصيات وطنية، علماء، شيوخ قبائل وممثلين لأقليات إلى آخره. المفروض أن هذه اللائحة تعيد نوع من التوازن عندما يتم تسليم والنظر إلى اللوائح الأخرى. ومعنى هذا في تصوري أن هذه اللائحة يتم الإعلان عنها. على أن هذه اللائحة هي تصحيح أي نواقص موجودة حتى تكتمل الصورة ككل ويتم التمثيل لكافة الفئات في المجتمع المدني.

رئيس وفد مجلس الأمن إلى اليمن مارك جرانت عندما كان في اليمن قال إن المبادرة الخليجية والتي تنص على الوحدة اليمنية هي إطار عام للمرحلة الانتقالية في حين أنك شخصياً كمبعوث الأمين العام لا تركز على

استغلال هذه المبالغ وتوزيعها على المشاريع المختلفة. المشاريع التي سيدة القرار وهي التي تعد المشاريع وتقدمها إلى المانحين. وستكون هناك عقود ما بين الحكومة والأطراف المانحة فيها حقوق وواجبات من الطرفين. الطرفين التزام بدعم اليمن بشافية والتسيير الجيد لجميع المشاريع التي تم الاتفاق عليها. وهناك أفكار كثيرة حول كيفية إدارة المنع والدعم الدولي المتوفر. لكن هناك نقاش ما بين الأطراف الحكومية والدول المانحة في أفكار من هذا النوع ومبادرات أخرى.

المشترك إلى الآن يرفض تقديم أسمائه اعتراضاً على مشروع العدالة الانتقالية، فهل تعتبر أحزاب اللقاء المشترك معرقله للحوار؟

لحد علمي ليست هناك إلى الآن جهة ترفض تقديم اللوائح (بأسماء ممثليها إلى مؤتمر الحوار الوطني). حسب معلوماتي بدأت تكتمل لوائح الأحزاب السياسية وسيتم استيفائها في وقت قريب.

لكن اللجنة الفنية التحضيرية للأحزاب الحرة لم تبدأ تسليم أسمائها ولم يتم الالتزام بأي منها ما عدا حزبين فقط.

أنا أتأسف أن هناك تأخير في إنهاء التحضير بشكل عام. لا ننسى أن اللجنة الفنية كان من المفترض أن تنهي عملها في نهاية سبتمبر وحتى في القرار الرئيسي الذي أنشأ هذه اللجنة كانت هناك إشارة لموعدها بدء المؤتمر وهو ١٥ نوفمبر. وتأخر هذا الاتفاق على الترتيبات التحضيرية للمؤتمر وأناأسف على هذا التأخير ولكن أؤكد مرة أخرى إن ما تعلمناه من تجارب دول أخرى هو انه لا يمكن الدخول في مؤتمر حوار وطني إلا إذا كان هناك تحضير بمستوى جيد تشارك فيه جميع الأطراف السياسية. رغم كل ما يقال على أعمال اللجنة الفنية أنا أظن أن اللجنة الفنية كان أداؤها جيد. أولاً جميع الأطراف والفعاليات الموجودة في المجتمع المدني ممثلة وهذه سابقة في تاريخ اليمن، أن تخلق هيئة تمثل فيها جميع الهيئات وجميع الأطراف السياسية والاجتماعية.

كذلك رغم الصعوبات تم التوافق على عدد من القضايا الشائكة التي طرحت في اللجنة. هناك تأخير هذا أكد لكن من جهة أخرى يجب أن نرى الجانب الإيجابي وهو أنه لأول مرة تم تشكيل هيئة وتم الوصول إلى اتفاقات وخلاصات عبر نقاش جدي وتوافق.

قانون العدالة الانتقالية تربطه أحزاب اللقاء المشترك بالبداية بالحوار بالرغم من أن العدالة الانتقالية موضوع من مواضيع الحوار، كيف تفسر هذا التناقض؟

أكد أن العدالة الانتقالية والمصالحة الوطنية هي من المواضيع التي تم الاتفاق عليها في الآلية التنفيذية أن تكون من أهم المواضيع المطروحة

مسألة الوحدة وتقول ان هذا شأن اليمنيين وناتج عن مؤتمر الحوار. هل هناك تناقض بين مجلس الأمن ومبعوث الأمين العام؟

أبداً لا. لأن مرجعيتي كممثل الأمين العام هو قرارات مجلس الأمن. وهناك قرارات والبيانات التي صدرت من مجلس الأمن كلها تؤكد على وحدة اليمن. لكن ما أركز عليه أنا هو أن الحوار مفتوح للجميع ولجميع الآراء. معناه هو أن جميع الآراء وبدون سقف ممكن أن تأتي برؤى وبرامج والحل هو في يد اليمنيين. هذه أمور لا يمكن أن تحل بفتاوى من الخارج. العملية السياسية هي عملية يمنية يقودها اليمنيون. الحوار هو حوار وطني شامل والقضايا المطروحة هي جميع القضايا ذات البعد الشامل.

يعني القضية الجنوبية سيتم حلها بشكل عادل أتمنى من خلال طرح جميع الرؤى والمواقف المطروحة والتعاون والحوار ما بين جميع الأطراف.

هل وجدتم ان الجنوبيين سواء في الداخل أو الخارج قد تم جذبهم إلى الحوار؟

واضح أن هناك شخصيات ومجموعات أعلنت عن رغبتها في المشاركة في الحوار وهناك شخصيات ومجموعات أخرى تعارض الدخول في الحوار. وهناك مجموعات أخرى متفككة مبدئياً لكن لديها شروط تطرحها. أنا أظن بشكل عام ستكون هناك مشاركة للحراك في المؤتمر لأنه تم الإعلان عن هذا من أطراف كثيرة ومجموعات وشخصيات وحتى في اللجنة الفنية نفسها لا يمكن أن يقال أن رأي الحراك غائب. ولا يدعي عدد من الإخوان والأخوات الجنوبيين الممثلين في اللجنة أنهم ممثلين رسميين للحراك لكن يدافعون على آراء الحراك وطروحته في لقاءات اللجنة وبقوة على الآراء الموجودة في الحراك.

أكد ان هناك تنوع في المواقف في الجنوب وهذا التنوع طبيعي كما هناك اختلاف في الرؤى على كيفية حل القضية الجنوبية في الشمال.

إذاً ممكن أن يبدأ مؤتمر الحوار والوضع كما هو، يعني لن نتظر أن تأتي جميع مكونات الحراك بحيث تبدأ بالاجتماعين الآن ونأمل أن يلتحق بنا الآخرين؟

ثاني لائحة موجودة في المؤتمر وهي قائمة الـ ٨٥ هي مخصصة للحراك، وكذلك تم الاتفاق على مشاركة الجنوبيين ستكون بما لا يقل عن ٥٠٪. أنا متفائل وأظن أنني وضحت هذا لكافة الأطراف في الحراك أنه أولاً لا يمكن حل هذه القضية إلا بالحوار. لا يمكن حل هذه القضية بالعنف ويجب على الجميع نبذ العنف ومن خلال الحوار يتم طرح جميع الآراء وهي كثيرة. نحن قد استمعنا إلى آراء مختلفة على كيفية حل القضية الجنوبية، لكن المهم الآن أن يعترف الجميع في اليمن في الشمال وفي الجنوب على أن هناك قضية اسمها القضية الجنوبية. ويعترف الجميع أنه كانت هناك مظالم وخروقات جسيمة وصدرت حتى قرارات رئاسية من أجل معالجة هذه الأوضاع وهذه الخروقات. حتى في الآلية التنفيذية كان هناك إشارة واضحة لضرورة إيجاد حل عادل للقضية الجنوبية من خلال الحوار وليس هناك أي وسيلة أخرى لحل هذه القضية. لا يمكن أن تتحل إلا من خلال الحوار وحوار تشارك فيه جميع الأطراف وجميع الفعاليات.

كثير من الفضائل الجنوبية، تؤمن بالحوار ولكنها تقول إنها بحاجة إلى مرجعية مختلفة تعترف بهم كدولة مستقلة وليس كجزء من يمن واحد.

في جميع المفاوضات في العالم كله وجميع الحوارات، المتحاورين يأتون بآراء متضاربة تماماً وهذا شأن طبيعي. أنا أكدت دائماً في حواراتي مع الإخوان والأخوات في الحراك أن يأتوا للحوار هذا هو الإطار الصحيح والوحيد لمعالجة القضية الجنوبية ليطلعوا جميع آراءهم ورؤاهم لكيفية حل هذه القضية.

بمعنى أنهم إذا لم يأتوا إلى هذا الحوار ومؤتمر الحوار الوطني المنصوص عليه في الآلية التنفيذية للمبادرة الخليجية، فإنه لن يكون هناك أي إطار آخر لهم من أجل أن يعطوا آراءهم أو يشرحوا قضيتهم؟

ما أود أن أؤكد عليه أن هناك إطار الآن موجود وهو مؤتمر الحوار الوطني وفي إطار هذا المؤتمر تم خلق آلية محددة حتى لا تضيع القضية الجنوبية لأن هناك فريق عمل خاص من أهم فرق العمل تم الاتفاق عليه وهو فريق عمل اسمه القضية الجنوبية ونسبة كبيرة من أعضاء هذا الفريق سيكونوا من الجنوب وجزء منهم سيكون من الشمال وستطرح جميع الآراء. في الشمال وفي الجنوب هناك آراء متضاربة حول كيفية حل

## مجلس الأمن لا يتحدث عن عقوبات ضد دول، ولكنه يتحدث عن عقوبات ضد أشخاص أو مجموعات

مجلس الأمن لا يتحدث عن عقوبات ضد دول، ولكنه يتحدث عن عقوبات ضد أشخاص أو مجموعات



# No funding and no direction, a center is unable to cope with needs of psychologically ill tenants

Story and photos by Amira Nasser

A homeless shelter that was established in 1999 in Heshaishea district in Sana'a, had been provided beggars with

shelter and training opportunities for years. But, following a verbal arrangement at the capital secretariat's office in August 2012, the center was rearranged to focus on providing food, shelter and clothing for homeless people with psychological disorders. Since this

undocumented change, the center has been forced to forget about its task of helping beggars and has been inundated with volumes of mentally ill people, who the staff are untrained to help. On a Tuesday afternoon, almost 200 people sit quietly under the



Men gather outside of the center, not able to receive proper psychological care.



The center says only a fourth of the men they house have their own mattresses.

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beaming midday sun in the center's central courtyard. Most have disheveled hair, scruffy clothes and vacant looks. Faid Alfutaih, a man in his 40s, was among them. Bare-foot and pallid, with an unkempt beard, he articulately explained his journey to the center.

Alfutaih says he spent five years studying medicine in Sana'a University and was close to graduating as a physician. But, following a family dispute with his father and a subsequent breakdown, he left his family's home and took to wandering the streets, growing progressively more unstable.

He found the center last Ramadan, just as the space received its orders from the capital secretariat to change its mission.

Today Faid has one suit, which he wears morning and night. Slowly shaking his head when questions become too intrusive, he often turns away into silence, yet he happily confirms he is "relaxed here."

His friend, Ameen Hamid Fathel, has different reasons that brought him to the center.

Ameen, who used to be a math teacher at a high school in Sana'a, said, "I did not flee my home, I am married, but my brothers and my wife caused my mother to die."

When pushed for more details, he reacts similarly to Faid, shaking his head, and turning his face into his shoulder. Ameen shares Faid's feelings of comfort at the center.

Although Faid and Ameen report "being comfortable," the center's staff says they are overstretched and under-funded.

"There was a rise in the number of mentally ill vagrants in Sana'a at the time [the decision came from the Capital Secretariat]. They lacked care and shelter and based on that decision, they are now provided with a place that shelters them," said Rajeh Alqudami, the former manager of the Social Affairs Office in Sana'a, who was recently removed from his position.

Once the decision was issued, YR 800,000, a little less than \$4,000, was allocated for the center by the Capital Secretariat to tackle the new task of providing mentally ill patients with three meals a day, clothes twice a year and blankets for sleeping.

However, unexpectedly in since December 2012, the Capital Secretariat refused to provide more funding.

Officials are playing a blame game as to who is responsible. Their answers are convoluted in bureaucracy, the Secretariat now claims it is the responsibility of the Finance Ministry to fund the center. The Finance Ministry refuses to provide funding as they say there is no specific budget for the care of psychologically ill people from the streets.

"When we asked the Finance Ministry to include us in the budget for this year, it was turned down and we were told that it was the business of the Health Office or the Social Affairs Ministry" said Rashid Alashwal, the center's director.

"The Capital Secretariat is waiting to find a suitable medical psychological center to treat the patients, and thus there is no official budget provided yet, but the center is providing this service as a stop-over with no funding," Al-Rajehi said.

At present, there are no new funds to cover the physical, emotional or psychological needs of the centers growing number of occupants. The initial money provided only covered a basic set of beds, mattresses, blankets and a small amount of food.

The center says much more is needed to provide long-term care and assistance. Currently only a fourth of occupants have their own mattress.

"We initially expected to have around 100 cases, but the number soon doubled, making it increasingly difficult to cover their needs" Alqudami said.

Furthermore, the lack of funding resulted in the staff at the center not being trained to provide medical assistance or care to people with severe mental disorders.

Overworked and ill-equipped to deal with mental disorders, staff at the center have refused to go to work except to receive their salaries once a month.

"Following the orders issued by the capital secretariat, the staff refused to attend the center as they cannot handle the people with psychological disorders, they just show up to receive their monthly salaries," Alashwal said.

At a turning point, the center continues to gather psychological patients from the streets of Sana'a, yet they remain unable to care for them as the government passes the buck of responsibility.

"I need a budget to tend to the needs of those psychological disorders - what we have is not enough," Alqudami said.

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# Shisha invades public places, gains popularity with women

Najla'a Hasan

At a secluded café near a main street in Sana'a, a group of ladies gather to smoke shisha, flavored tobacco that is traditionally smoked out of a long pipe that is also known as a hookah. Booming echoes of laughter fill their small space, with the five ladies clearly enjoying their latest social session.

Aida, Somia, Rehab, Sunds and Roia have been close friends for years. They have been frequenting the café since its establishment a couple of months ago. They come almost every day to socialize, gossip and discuss life. With a separate room from men, the women said they feel unembarrassed to smoke, laugh or talk as loudly as they want.

Although girls smoking shisha is not uncommon across Yemen, smoking in public spaces is a new phenomena. Much of Yemeni soci-

ety still frowns on shisha smoking for women in public, yet many females, especially young girls have started to break these social rules. With increasing numbers of women smoking in cafes, many have asked whether this trend is representative of a wider increase in the levels of female independence and empowerment. Moreover, with health experts noticing a rise in the number of women with respiratory problems, they have warned of the growing health risks attached to smoking shisha.

Rihab abhors spending her time at home, preferring public spaces to socialize.

"The café is a suitable place to meet, smoke shisha and discuss life. Why should I meet my girlfriends at home? Now society rejects shisha smoking outside, but it will be acceptable one day," she said.

Just like Rihab, Aida considers what they are doing "normal."

"This is personal freedom. And we sit in a special place for girls. We

don't mingle with boys. So, what is the detriment?" She said. "Even if there is a health hazard, I will bear the pain alone."

The group of girls are higher educated and hold jobs in both the private and public sector. Speaking about people's reactions to them, they mused that only those of a "traditional mind set" look down upon what they do.

Although they realize some people label them as "not good girls," this has not put a halt to their daily trend.

In another affront to traditional norms, Roia says, "The time I spend with my friends is more than the time spent with my family."

"It is a trend that has to do with comfort and pleasure. The man has the right to do whatever he likes, but the culture of the society basically deprives women from pleasure. So criticism is hurled towards girls, while men are left to do what they want," said Balqees Al-Lahbi, a female activist.

However, people are not just critical of the girls because of their status as anomalies, many are concerned about health effects.

"My father constantly cautions me against it because of the health dangers," Roia said.

Dr. Najat Hassn Al-Faqeh, assistant professor at the College of Education and the head of the Early Childhood Department, said smoking shisha for both men and women is becoming a huge issue in Yemen.

In an effort to keep their daughters out of the public eye, "Some mothers believe that smoking shisha with them at home is safe in comparison with letting them smoke it in café," the doctor said. "Increasingly, we are seeing girls become addicts. This is a societal catastrophe," she said.

Al-Faqeh asserted that the traditionally conservative customs of Yemeni society are being bypassed by the youth. In the past, Yemeni women were unable to smoke shisha while unmarried, however, today is

different, with girls taking pipes to weddings and public places, often to the detriment of their health

Al-Faqeh disagrees that women are increasingly smoking shisha as a form of rebellion.

"Yemeni girls have become educated, and hold many posts. They have become important in society. It is unfair to say girls smoke because they suffer repression," she said.

Dr. Ahmed Al-Safani, an abdominal specialist in the Military Hospital in Sana'a, said shisha contains many toxic chemical substances that are highly detrimental to anyone's health, irrespective of gender.

"There are four types of cancer that could infect shisha smokers in addition to other inflammatory effects such as pneumonia, chronic lung infections and acute bronchitis," he said.

"The longer someone spends smoking, the more dangerous it is," he added.



Shisha is a growing trend among men and women in Yemen.

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